

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 89 – SB 149

April 19, 2017

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Requires a background check of potential school bus drivers to include inquiry into whether the candidate has committed a serious traffic violation. Prohibits local education agencies (LEAs) from issuing a certificate to drive a school bus to an applicant who has committed a serious traffic violation within the previous three years. Prohibits private schools from employing an individual to drive a school bus who has committed a serious traffic violation in the previous three years. Requires LEAs and private schools to investigate complaints made against school bus drivers. Prohibits the issuance of a school bus endorsement to a person who has in the previous five years been convicted of DUI; vehicular assault; vehicular homicide; aggravated vehicular homicide; or the manufacture, delivery, sale, or possession of a controlled substance. Prohibits the issuance of a school bus endorsement to a person who has committed a serious traffic violation within the past three years.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (007727): Deletes and rewrites the legislation such that the only substantive changes are to remove the investigation requirement of the original bill and to change the effective date from July 1, 2017, to January 1, 2018.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Unchanged from the original fiscal note.

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 49-6-2117, LEAs are currently required to check a bus driver applicant's driving record for the last five years.
- It is assumed that a school bus driver will receive the same starting salary at any age.

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- Nothing in the legislation prohibits any local education agency or school bus company from hiring additional drivers.
- The Department of Safety confirms this legislation will not impact the number of school bus endorsements issued on a driver license.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista M. Lee". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

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